

Pub. 101
Cond.
providing a drive to move the movable stage in a two-dimensional plane such that a reaction force exerted by the movement of the movable stage is transferred to the first support structure; and

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providing a position detector to detect a position of the movable stage in the two-dimensional plane, the position detector being supported by the second support structure.

C12
67. (Amended) A method according to claim 34, wherein the drive moves the movable stage in the two-dimensional plane, including movement in the plane in a first linear direction, in a second linear direction and in a rotative direction on an axis of the movable stage.

Pub. 105
72. (Amended) An image forming method that forms an image onto an object, comprising the steps of:

moving a stage in a two-dimensional plane;

C3
transferring a reaction force caused by the movement of the stage to a first support structure;

detecting a position of the stage in the two-dimensional plane by a position detector that is supported by a second support structure dynamically isolated from the first support structure; and

forming the image onto the object by movement of the stage.

Pub. 109
C4
104. (Amended) A method of making a positioning apparatus that positions an object, comprising the steps of:

providing a first support structure;

providing a second support structure dynamically isolated from the first support structure;

providing a drive to move the object in a two-dimensional plane such that a reaction force exerted by the movement of the object is transferred to the first support structure; and

providing a position detector to detect a positional information of the object in the two-dimensional plane, the position detector being supported by the second support structure.

112. (Amended) A method according to claim 104, wherein the drive moves the object in the two-dimensional plane, including movement in the plane in a first linear direction, in a second linear direction and in a rotative direction on an axis of the object.

127. (Amended) A method according to claim 114, wherein the drive moves the movable stage in the two-dimensional plane, including movement in the plane in a first linear direction, in a second linear direction and in a rotative direction on an axis of the movable stage.

133. (Amended) A positioning method that positions an object, comprising the steps of:
moving the object in a two-dimensional plane;
transferring a reaction force caused by movement of the object to a first support structure;
detecting a position information of the object in the two-dimensional plane by a position detector supported by a second support structure dynamically isolated from the first support structure; and
positioning the object based on a detection result by the position detector.

142. (Amended) A method according to claim 139, wherein the step of driving the object comprises moving the object in the two-dimensional plane, including moving the object in first and second linear directions and rotating the object on an axis of the object.

REMARKS

Claims 34-157 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 34, 67, 72, 104, 112, 127, 133 and 142 are amended. The attached Appendix includes a marked-up copy of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).